

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 5, 8, 10 through 14, 16 through 19, 22, and 24 through 31 are in the Application and are presented for consideration. By this amendment, claims 6, 7, 9, 15, 20, 21 and 23 have been canceled. New claims 24 through 30 have been added.

Claim 1 has been amended to include features of original claims 2, 7 and 12. Claim 1 now highlights important feature of the invention in which the displacing motion is continuous and the laser tool is controlled for intermittent welding with the compensating motion controlling the welding speed to allow for intermittent welding during the continuous displacement motion. Similar changes have been made to independent claim 14. New claim 24 highlights the combination of process features in which the manipulator provides a displacing motion of the laser tool with this displacing motion greater than the machining velocity, namely greater than the movement of laser beam itself over the workpiece. Similar features are highlighted in new claim 29. This allows for a higher speed of machining overall while the important actual speed of machining (speed of welding or cutting) is maintained at acceptable levels.

It is Applicant's position that the combination of features patentably defines over the prior art as a whole. Accordingly favorable consideration of the amended claims in a new claims is requested.

Further and favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,



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JJM:jj/tf
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Attached: Request for Continued Examination
Petition for One Month Extension of Time

SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-
0410.

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